

## **Fiscal Year 2001 Agriculture Appropriations Analysis & Review**

### **By the Numbers:**

Fiscal Year 2000: \$13,945,000

Request: \$15,517,000

**Fiscal Year 2001: \$14,491,000** (includes \$115 million in emergency spending)

Senate Allocation: \$14,850,000

**The House reported measure is \$546 million or 3.9% above last year, \$1,026 million or 6.6% below the request, and \$359 or 2.5% below the Senate allocation.**

**Emergency Funding:** The bill provides \$115 million in emergency funding for losses suffered by apple and potato producers. (Result of a Hinchey / Walsh amendment in Full Committee) **Under the Rule, the emergency designation, but not the funding may be struck on a point of order.**

### **Legislative Changes:**

**TRADE SANCTIONS --** The bill excludes agriculture and medical supplies and devices from current trade sanctions imposed by the U.S. on foreign countries. In the future, the President could only impose a sanction that covers agriculture and medical supplies and devices with Congressional consent. (Result of a Nethercutt Amendment in Sub-Committee) **Under the Rule, this provision may be struck on a point of order.**

**CROP INSURANCE --** The bill reduces the commissions received by crop insurance agents in order to offset increased spending. (Result of a Hinchey amendment in Full Committee)

**SUBSIDIES FOR MINK FARMERS —** The bill reverses current law, enacted by the Republican Congress which prohibits the Market Access Program from providing assistance to mink farmers. **Under the Rule, this provision may be struck on a point of order.**

**KYOTO PROTOCOL —** The bill contains language prohibiting funds in the bill from being used to implement the Kyoto Protocol on Global Warming.

**POULTRY FARMERS —** The bill requires that any rule issued that requires egg producers to test for Salmonella shall contain provisions to defray or reimburse producers for the cost of such tests. The bill also extends the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans for the purposes of rebuilding

chicken houses that were not covered by hazard insurance.

**Selected Increases Above the President's Request:**

*Dollars in Thousands*

	<b>FY '00</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>FY '01</b>	<b>% Above Last Year</b>	<b>% Above Request</b>
Economic Research Service	\$65,363	\$55,424	\$66,419	1.6%	19.8%
Cooperative State Research & Education	\$481,881	\$460,865	\$477,551	-0.8%	3.6%

The Committee provides \$74.4 million for "Special Research Grants" (earmarks). The President only requested \$6.4 million. Included under "Special Research Grants" is the following:

\$5.8 million for "Wood utilization(OR, MS, NC, MN, ME, MI, ID, TN, AK)", an increase of \$650,000;

\$80,000 for "Produce pricing (AZ)", a new program;

\$200,000 for "International asparagus competitiveness (WA)", a new program;

\$100,000 for "Value-added products (IL)", a new program;

\$300,000 for "Vidalia onions (GA)", a 200% increase.

Extension Activities	\$424,174	\$428,236	\$428,740	1.1%	0.1%
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Included under Extension Activities is a new \$420,000 after-school program in CA, as well as direction that \$3.5 million will be provided for the Delta Teachers Academy in Pine Bluff, AR.

Resource Conservation & Development	\$35,265	\$36,265	\$41,015	16.3%	13.1%
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**Selected Increases Above Last Year:**

*Dollars in Thousands*

	<b>FY '00</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>FY '01</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Office of the Chief Information Office	\$6,046	\$14,680	\$10,051	\$4,005	66.2%
Common Computing Environment	\$12,600	\$75,000	\$25,000	\$12,400	98.4%
Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service	\$437,768	\$512,444	\$470,000	\$32,232	7.4%
Agriculture Marketing Service	\$51,497	\$66,572	\$56,326	\$4,829	9.4%

Food Safety & Inspection Service	\$649,119	\$688,204	\$673,790	\$24,671	3.8%
Farm Service Agency	\$794,394	\$828,385	\$828,385	\$33,991	4.3%
Rural Community Advancement Program	\$693,637	\$762,542	\$775,837	\$82,200	11.9%
Rural Community Development Grants	\$6,000	\$11,500	\$6,500	\$500	8.3%
FDA	\$1,183,095	\$1,306,178	\$1,240,178	\$57,083	4.8%

### **New Programs:**

National Sheep Industry Improvement Center Revolving Fund -- The Committee provides \$5 million in discretionary funds for the fund which was established in the 1996 Farm Bill. The 1996 Act provided \$20 million in mandatory funds and authorized \$30 million in discretionary funding. Discretionary funding was not provided last year.

Agritourism — The Committee provides \$2 million for agritourism under the Rural Community Advancement Program.

**Earmarks:** Beyond the normal earmarks for research, the report accompanying the bill directs the Department of Agriculture to give consideration to over 60 projects including:

- C grants and loans for the Southern New Mexico state fair grounds buildings and infrastructure improvements;
- C a grant to the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum;
- C funds for agricultural economic development in the New York City Watershed;
- C the purchase and repair of the Crown Building in Craig County, VA;
- C construction of a shell building in the Floyd County (VA) Industrial Park;
- C a rural business enterprise grant to preserve and restore the York (PA) Farmers' Market;
- C the Interpretive Plan for the Lincoln Highway and Gettysburg Borough (PA);
- C a community facilities grant for the Iron County (MI) Association for repairs to an event complex;
- C a project for repair and upgrades to the Tillamook Railroad (OR) and the associated fiber optic telecommunication network; and
- C a Rural Business Enterprise Grant for development and promotion of agritourism in New York.

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*The views expressed in this Policy Brief do not necessarily reflect the views of  
all Members of the Conservative Action Team.*

The Conservative Action Team is a Congressional Member Organization of over 50 Republican House Members and is chaired by Representative John Shadegg (R-AZ).